

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

AUGUST 20, 2015

School Starts August 25



Greenbelt Middle School

Transition Day

Transition Day will be Monday, August 24 for all students starting in a new school, including pre-kindergarten and kindergarten, as well as for students attending middle and high school for the first time.

The Transition Day program aims to help students prepare for life in elementary, middle or high school. They will learn about their new school and meet staff members.

Students who ride buses will be picked up and dropped off at their regular time and bus stop location. Parents with questions about transition days should contact their child's school.

Bus Stop Tips

Parents of registered students should receive a letter from Transportation a week before school starts. The letter specifies the bus stop location, the route number and pickup/drop off times. Parents can access this bus stop information the week before school starts at pgcps.org under Parents, Bus Stop Search

School Meal Prices

Student breakfast: \$1.60; elementary lunch: \$2.75; secondary lunch: \$3.00. Milk alone will be \$0.55.

The required forms to apply for free or reduced-price meals can be obtained at each school and will be sent home with the children. Parents may also call 301-952-651.

Registration

Registration is ongoing at all local public schools. Registration packets can be picked up from the school offices during regular office hours. A copy of the child's immunization record is required, as well as the Social Security number, proof of residency and proof of age. For more information go to pgcps.org/backtoschool.

Schedules Online

Schedules for registered students should be available online via the SchoolMax Family Portal on the Prince George's County Public Schools website on August 21. Students moving up to middle

or high school will use the same log-in information that they used in elementary school.

Before and After Care

The county school system operates a school-age child care program at Greenbelt Elementary, Magnolia Elementary and Springhill Lake Elementary schools. Child care begins every regular school day at 7 a.m. and operates until the start of the school day. The afternoon session begins at the end of the school day and operates until 6 p.m. There is a fee. For further information go to pgcps.org/beforeandafter-schoolelp/ or call 240-724-1675.

Parent Teacher Organizations

Most of the local schools have some kind of parent organization and many of these have their own websites or a page on the school's website giving additional information about the schools and how to volunteer.

Parent Teacher Organizations

Greenbelt Elementary – greenbelt.com/gespta or email greenbeltespta@gmail.com

Magnolia Elementary – email info.mes.pto@gmail.com

Springhill Lake Elementary – contact principal

Turning Point Academy –

see the school webpage and facebook.com/tpa.pto

Greenbelt Middle –

greenbeltmiddlepta.org or email ptagreenbeltmiddle@gmail.com

Dora Kennedy French Immersion – rgfpipta.org/

Eleanor Roosevelt High – erhsptsa.weebly.com or email erhsptsaweb@gmail.com. First ERHS PTSA meeting is August 25 at 7 p.m. in the media center.

What Goes On

Monday, August 24

8 p.m., Council Worksession on Cherrywood Lane Design, Municipal Building. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at greenbeltdm.gov/municipal

Tuesday, August 25

5:30 p.m., Advisory Committee on Trees Meeting, Public Works Facility, 555 Crescent Road

7 p.m., Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education Meeting, Municipal Building

7:30 p.m., Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES) and Green Team Meeting, Community Center

Wednesday, August 26

7 p.m., Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting, Community Center

8 p.m., Council Worksession on Economic Development Proposal, Community Center

Local Schools Times, Websites, Phone numbers

Greenbelt Elementary

opens 9:15 a.m.,
closes 3:25 p.m.
pgcps.org/greenbeltes/
301-513-5911

Magnolia Elementary

opens 9:15 a.m.,
closes 3:25 p.m.
pgcps.org/magnolia/
301-918-8770

Springhill Lake Elementary

opens 7:45 a.m.,
closes 1:55 p.m.
pgcps.org/springhilllake/
301-513-5996

Turning Point Academy

Public Charter School
opens 8 a.m., closes 3 p.m.
pgcps.org/turningpoint/
301-552-0164

Greenbelt Middle

opens 9 a.m., closes 3:40 p.m.
pgcps.org/greenbeltmms/
301-513-5040

Dora Kennedy

French Immersion
opens 9:15 a.m.,
closes 3:55 p.m.
pgcps.org/dorakennedy/
301-918-8600

Eleanor Roosevelt High

opens 8:30 a.m.,
closes 3:25 p.m.
pgcps.org/leanorroosevelt/
301-513-5400

Special Task Force on Solar Installation Reports to Council

by James Giese

When first heard, it sounded like the city's Green Team Solar Task Force had come up with a great proposal for the city to undertake. At the Greenbelt City Council's August 12 worksession, the task force presented its proposal to have a contractor install

– at no cost to the city – solar panels on the roofs of two city buildings and a grassy slope, potentially saving the city \$48,000 annually on its Pepco electric bill. What's more, the city could latch on to a Montgomery County contract and avoid the costly process of taking bids.

However, by the evening's end, glitches in the idea became apparent. While the pursuit of solar panel installation is still a good thing to do, the city might have to go through a bid process after all, the area of city solar panels might have to be smaller, and the energy cost savings to the city might not be as great. Also, time may be running out for the contractor to get a federal government investment tax credit, an essential ingredient of the deal.

Steve Skolnik, chair of the task force presented the proposal it had obtained from Solar City, a company that installs solar panels. Solar City has a contract with Montgomery County for the installation of panels there. Montgomery County is the lead government for the Metropolitan

Washington Council of Governments for contracting solar panel installation with the understanding that other jurisdictions, including Greenbelt, might be able to piggyback onto their contract and obtain the same services for the same price.

For Greenbelt, Solar City considered a long list of possible sites for panel installation and found three of them worth doing: the roofs of Greenridge House (the city-owned senior apartment on Ridge Road), – the Public Works facility buildings and the grass field at the north end of Mandan Road in Greenbriar condominiums. These three sites could generate approximately one-third of the electricity used by the city, according to Skolnik.

Solar Panels

As presented by Skolnik, Solar City would install a photovoltaic energy system at no cost to the city that would convert energy from the sun into electricity to feed into the Pepco electric distribution system. Solar membranes are made from silica, an unlimited resource and placed in aluminum frames with glass surfaces for stability. The panels would be connected to the Pepco system through city "net" meters enabling Pepco electricity to be supplied to city facilities when insufficient solar power is generated and excess electricity

See SOLAR, page 8

Council Okays Pool Roof Replacement, Paved Path

by Amanda Leigh Brozana

The city's Aquatic and Fitness Center will soon have a new roof, but not without a bit of tension between councilmembers during the regular monthly meeting Monday, Aug. 10 over funding for the estimated \$650,000 project.

The roof, which is 25 years old, has outlived its normal serviceable life according to the resolution debated at the meeting. After review of six submitted bids, city staff recommended a "green" roofing system made of Thermoplastic Polyolefin manufactured by Carlisle Syntec and installed by A.K.J. Inc.

Council had budgeted \$90,000 for the 2016 project, on the basis that more than a half million dollars of the project would come in the form of a grant from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Program Open Space to make up the difference.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts called the use of Open Space funds for the roof horrible, and unconscionable saying he would not vote for the resolution.

Councilmember Silke Pope, who read the resolution, called the facility "one of Greenbelt's gems" during open discussion and said "we need to make sure the structure and the whole facility is an attractive and safe place for everybody to visit."

Councilmember Judith Davis spoke in support of the resolution and use of Program Open Space funds, saying, "I believe this is a very valuable use of the Program Open Space money because it is recreation, it is enjoyed by many people and it is an amenity that Greenbelt can be proud of."

Davis said without the grant money, in order to complete the project, city taxpayers would

See COUNCIL, page 4

Editorial**A Burning Question**

We do not take a position on the scope or contractor for the city's forest preserve study. We do ask, however, that any study consider the risk of fire.

Fires occur naturally in forests, even without human involvement. While past forestry management practices sought to prevent all forest fires, more recent thinking is that fires are a crucial component of wilderness ecosystems. Wild forest fires are sometimes left to burn out naturally –when they do not threaten human lives or homes.

In Greenbelt, many homes are immediately adjacent to our Forest Preserve. As any fires in these wooded areas would threaten these homes; a natural burn is out of the question. The city and fire department need to plan as necessary to prevent and eliminate woodland fires.

While fires rarely occur in our woodlands, old-timers remember fires in Parcels 1 and 2 off Northway in the 1960s and 70s, likely juvenile arson and extinguished by the Greenbelt fire department. We expect modern fire companies are prepared to deal with similar fires. But firefighting may be difficult in woodland without roads or accessible fire hydrants.

Lately regular rain has minimized fire risks. But future droughts are inevitable. The recent University Square apartment fire demonstrates the potential damage from one bolt of lightning. Human carelessness and arson pose further fire risks.

As part of forest preserve stewardship, Greenbelt must manage the risk that future drought, accumulated vegetation, and an incendiary incident may pose to homes bordering the preserve.

Letters to the Editor**Need to Know Before Hiring**

I read with interest Siegel and Snyder's letter about firms under consideration to manage the forest preserve and I agree. It's crucial to look into the credentials of their employees who will be assigned to do the work. These people have to have forestry credentials, as the letter-writers said. It's not enough that the supervisor have credentials; all the assistants have to understand what they're doing and not just be the lowest-priced labor available.

It's also important to get a detailed plan of how they want to do the work. I like hearing woodpeckers, both when they call and when they are hunting food. An over-managed landscape has nowhere for woodpeckers to forage. I love listening to mockingbirds and knowing that they are keeping the bug population down. Poisoning plants they use for food isn't good for anything in nature. Does the plan include chemicals that are bad for bees? That's not going to help the backyard veggies project in Greenbelt very much. Are they going to get rid of milkweed and help extinct the monarch butterfly? Is all the work going to be timed so as to do the most damage possible to birds' abilities to nest and raise families? Are we going to wind up with one of those pathetic industrial landscapes where a third of the trees are nothing but stumps because of bad treatment?

I want addresses of where these people have done work in the city before. I want to go there and see if they are creating damaging volcanoes of poisonous hardwood mulch pushed up against the trunks of trees where it traps moisture and makes the bark rot. I want a list of chemicals they've used at those sites and the work schedules. Just because they've worked in the city before doesn't mean they know what they're doing. As I know from firing more than one "lawn service" in past years.

Patricia Heil

Time for Decision On Forest Preserve

Perhaps the most important vote in the 12-year history of Greenbelt's Forest Preserve takes place tonight August 20, when the Forest Preserve Advisory Board (FPAB) meets at 7 p.m. in the Community Center. The FPAB plans to vote on bids from two environmental engineering

firms to study the health of the Preserve, a 200-plus acre tract of woods best known for an area named Blueberry Hill.

At the City Council meeting August 10, a consensus emerged that council wants a recommendation from the FPAB as soon as possible, preferably from tonight's meeting. With a recommendation in hand, council could award a contract to one of two firms that have submitted bids: AMT (A. Morton Thomas and Associates) and ESA (Environmental Systems Analysis).

Inaction poses a grave risk to the preserve, illustrated by photos submitted with this letter. The images show patches of stilt grass beginning to climb upward from the base of Blueberry Hill, the most pristine section of the preserve.

Stilt grass has spread exponentially this summer, due to a ban on all invasive weed picking in the preserve that was imposed by council at the end of a five-hour meeting last November. Council's ban is likely to remain in place until our elected representatives have data from an independent assessment of forest health.

On one hand, I understand why council imposed the ban. It wanted hard scientific data as a guide for future steps to protect the preserve from outside disturbances.

Unfortunately, invasive plants operate on a schedule different from what can best be called "Greenbelt time." Invasives do not wait. To understand the extent of this infestation, I urge everyone to take a short walk. Enter the preserve from Northway, turn right for about 100 yards and then head north, following the stream that parallels the BW Parkway.

For those not familiar with stilt grass, this rapidly spreading invasive smothers a forest understory, killing all native shrubs and tree seedlings. Deer cannot eat stilt grass, so it also destroys the food supply for wildlife. Moreover, stilt grass roots are so shallow that the plant promotes erosion, as opposed to deeper rooted native plants.

If the FPAB recommends hiring one of the two firms at tonight's meeting, council will have an incentive to move forward. One of the two firms, AMT, has even invited volunteers from Greenbelt to participate in its field work.

Preliminary data collected as early as this fall, could be enough

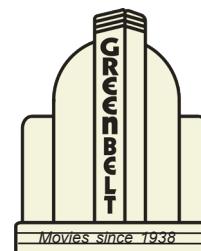
See LETTERS, page 12

Don't see your letter?

We received many letters this week, and plan to publish the remaining letters next week.

Pageant Pulls Out

The News Review has just learned that the Miss Greenbelt Pageant has pulled out of the Labor Day Festival. The Labor Day Festival Committee is planning to book an additional band to fill the gap on Friday night and move the Rising Stars outside to the main stage on Sunday evening.



Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbelttheatre.org

Adults \$9
Senior/Student \$8, Kids \$6
All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions

SHOWTIMES
Aug 21-Aug 27

END OF THE TOUR
(CC) (R) (106m.)

Fri. 8:00 PM
Sat. 1:00 PM, 3:15 PM,
5:30 PM, 8:00 PM
Sun. 1:00 PM, 3:15PM,
5:30 PM, 8:00 PM
Mon.-Thurs. 5:30 PM,
8:00 PM

**OUTDOOR
MOONLIT MOVIE!**
SCHROM HILLS PARK
DISNEY'S
ROBIN HOOD (1973)
(83m.)
Fri. 8:30 PM

CULT CLASSIC SERIES:
FERRIS BUELLER'S
DAY OFF (1986)
(PG-13) (103m.)
Fri. 11:00 PM

"My Two Cents" with Sense and Nonsense

© Chris Lagan 2015

On Screen**A Literary Road Trip**

Opening Friday, August 21 at Old Greenbelt Theatre is The End of the Tour, the late-in-the-day tour being that of author David Foster Wallace. Played by Jason Segel (popularized via How I Met Your Mother), Wallace was saluted for his widely creative talents before he took his own life. (Infinite Jest is his best-known novel.)

R. Running time: 106 minutes.

- Eli Flam

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Community Calendar: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/calendar

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Core of Greenbelt: Ian Tuckman 301-459-5624

Franklin Park: Arlene Clarke 240-988-3351

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cathie Meetre, president; Diane Oberg, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Sylvia Lewis, secretary; James Giese; and Tom Jones.

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and Classified Ads—8 p.m. Tuesday. Display Ads 4 p.m. Monday, 8 p.m. Tuesday if camera ready. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$45/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 10 p.m.

Community Events

Used Books Wanted

Throughout August, the Greenbelt Elementary School PTA will be collecting used books, cassette tapes, VHS tapes, DVDs and CDs to sell at the Labor Day Festival. No textbooks or reference books will be accepted. Donations may be dropped off either at the Co-op Supermarket or the Greenbriar community building no later than Wednesday, September 2. For large donations, call 956-639-6434 and leave a message. Details are available at <http://bit.ly/1BcbF4k>.

Healing Arts Day

Community Hospices is sponsoring a Healing Arts Day as part of the Health and Wellness Fair that the City of Greenbelt, Doctors Hospital and Greenbelt Homes Inc. holds annually. The event takes place on Tuesday, October 20 from 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Healing Arts Day will feature a variety of creative, holistic and preventive health and healing resources and activities for all ages. This free, family-friendly event is open to the public.

Health and healing vendors can reserve free space by contacting Margaret Capurso at 301-560-6002 or mcapurso@communityhospices.org. Community Hospices serves Prince George's County and Washington, D.C., and is dedicated to compassionate end-of-life care and making the most of life at any age.

Kids' School Supplies Sought for SHL School

The Greenbelt Federal Credit Union is collecting school supplies for Kids in Need at Springhill Lake Elementary School. A list of needed items is available online at pgcps.org/springhilllake/ as well as at the Credit Union and the Co-op Supermarket, both of which have drop boxes for donations. Cash donations can be made at the Credit Union; checks can be made payable to Springhill Lake Elementary School.

Star Party to Visit Star Factory

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will host a star party, open to the public, on Saturday evening, August 22 at the City of Greenbelt Observatory located at Northway field.

Observing will start with M17, the Omega Nebula, one of the brightest and most massive star-forming regions of our galaxy. From there it's on to other deep sky objects in Sagittarius and elsewhere. Saturn, Neptune and the moon are other possible viewing targets. As always, visitors are also welcome to set up personal telescopes on the hill.

Observing will begin at around 9 p.m. and continue for about two hours. There is no fee for the event. Attendees are asked to park in the ball field lot, not up on the hill, unless bringing a telescope. The star party will be canceled without notice if it is hopelessly cloudy.

Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The Golden Age Club always welcomes visitors. Come to the Community Center on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. and meet with us.

On the last meeting of the month we will play bingo. Come join the fun.

We are in the dog days of summer, so try to keep cool and drink lots of water.

Cub Scout Activities

Attention current and future Cub Scouts. Cub Scout Pack 202 is holding two upcoming events in old Greenbelt for those wishing to get involved.

On Saturday, September 5 from 5 to 7 p.m., there is a meeting to prepare a float for participation in the Greenbelt Labor Day Parade.

On Thursday, September 10, there will be a fall Pack 202 open house from 7 to 8 p.m.

For more information on where to meet or other related queries, contact Jonathan Murray at jdblockhead@yahoo.com or 301-351-6325.

Greenbelt Arts Center OPENING THIS WEEK

The Life and Death of King John



by William Shakespeare

Directed by Alan Duda

A Guest Production from The Rude Mechanicals

August 21 – September 5

Friday and Saturday at 8:00

Sunday, August 23 & 30 at 2:00

Ticket prices: \$20 General Admission, \$16 Students/Seniors/Military, \$12 Youth (12 and under with adult)

COMING SOON

Forsaken Angels - Sept 18 - 27 - Guest Production from Wolf Pack Theatre Company
Tru - October 9 - 18 - Directed by Gayle Negri

For information & reservations, call 301-441-8770 or
email: info@greenbelartscenter.org or
BOOK TICKETS ONLINE at www.greenbelartscenter.org

GHI Notes

Thursday, August 20, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting, Board Room;

8 p.m., Board / Finance Meeting (Budget Planning), Board Room

Tuesday, August 25, 8 a.m., Yardlines Committee Meeting, Board Room;

7 p.m., Member Outreach Committee Meeting, Board Room

Wednesday, August 26, 7 p.m., Buildings Committee Meeting, Board Room

Friday, August 28, OFFICE CLOSED. For emergency maintenance service call 301-474-6011.

Saturday, August 29, 11 a.m., Pre-Purchase Orientation, Board Room

Join the Cajun Jam At New Deal Café

On Wednesday, August 26, a free Cajun Jam will be held at the New Deal Café from 7 to 9:30 p.m. for dancers, musicians and listeners. Socializing will begin at 6 p.m. Beginners are welcome. For more information visit newdealcafe.com.

Calling All Pollinators

Join the Butterfly Brigade in the Labor Day Parade. Help raise awareness about the importance and plight of pollinators. All welcome: bees, butterflies, bats, etc. Make your own costume or let us know if you will need wings – we will have a limited supply. Contact Susan Barnett at susnbarn@earthlink.net.

No Donations

American Rescue Workers will not receive donations on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month for the time being due to a shortage of staff. Donations are expected to resume on Saturday, September 12. See City ad for details.

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for the week of August 24 are as follows:

Monday, August 24: Cranberry juice, pulled pork carnitas, lettuce and tomato, Spanish rice, Mexicali vegetables, flour tortilla, pineapple tidbits.

Tuesday, August 25: Apple juice, cream of tomato soup with crackers, chicken salad, Kaiser roll, mixed green salad with Italian dressing, fresh fruit.

Wednesday, August 26: Grape juice, Swedish meatballs, whole grain penne pasta, broccoli, wheat bread with margarine, fresh fruit.

Thursday, August 27: Pineapple juice, country fried steak with country gravy, whipped potatoes, sliced carrots, wheat roll with margarine, tropical fruit.

Friday, August 28: Grape juice, bourbon chicken thigh, hash brown casserole, California vegetables, wheat bread with margarine, diced peaches.

Free Produce Aug. 27

The Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program will offer free produce to Greenbelt residents on Thursday, August 27, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Green Ridge House, 22 Ridge Road.

Bring sturdy bags to carry items home. Do not park in the Green Ridge House parking lot. Volunteers will be on site to help load cars. Enter on the right side of the building. Do not go to the main entrance.

ACADEMY STADIUM THEATERS

6198 GREENBELT ROAD
CENTER COURT OF BELTWAY PLAZA
301-220-1155

For directions visit
www.academy8theaters.com

R = ID Required

(!) = No passes, (!!) = No passes weekend

* Not part of the morning and Tuesday discount shows

Most features are \$5.50
all day on Tuesdays; add \$2.00 for 3-D

Week of August 21

FRIDAY – SATURDAY

Hitman 47, R (!)
11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 7, 9:45

Sinister 2, R (!)

11:30, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30
American Ultra, R (!)

11:40, 2, 4:30, 7:20, 9:40

Straight Outta Compton, R (!!)
11, 2:10, 5:15,
6:50, 8:30, 9:30

The Man from
U.N.C.L.E., PG (!!)

11:20, 2, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55

Fantastic 4, PG-13

10:40, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 10
Mission Impossible:
Rogue Nation, PG-13

10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10
Minions, PG

11:10, 1:50, 4:20

SUNDAY – MONDAY

Hitman 47, R (!)
11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 7

Sinister 2, R (!)

11:30, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10
American Ultra, R (!)

11:40, 2, 4:30, 7:20

Straight Outta Compton, R
11:30, 2:40, 6, 7

The Man from
U.N.C.L.E., PG

11:20, 2, 4:40, 7:20
Fantastic 4, PG-13

10:40, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45

Mission Impossible:
Rogue Nation, PG-13

10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10
Minions, PG

11, 1:50, 4:20

WEDNESDAY

No Escape, PG-13 (!)

11, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10

Hitman 47, R (!)

11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 7
Sinister 2, R (!)

11:30, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10

American Ultra, R (!)

11:40, 2, 4:30, 7:20

Straight Outta Compton, R
11:30, 2:40, 6, 7

The Man from
U.N.C.L.E., PG

11:20, 2, 4:40, 7:20
Fantastic 4, PG-13

10:40, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45

Minions, PG

11:10, 1:50, 4:20

THURSDAY

No Escape, PG-13 (!)

11, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10

Hitman 47, R (!)

11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 7
Sinister 2, R (!)

11:30, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10

American Ultra, R (!)

11:40, 2, 4:30, 7:20

Straight Outta Compton, R
11:30, 2:40, 6, 7

The Man from
U.N.C.L.E., PG

11:20, 2, 4:40, 7:20
Fantastic 4, PG-13

10:40, 1:45, 4:15

Minions, PG

11:10, 1:50, 4:20

Jurassic World, PG-13

7

For more information, visit the GATE website or e-mail greenbelttv@gmail.com

See what's showing on Comcast 77 and Verizon FiOS 19 by visiting www.greenbelttv.org and click on "Channel"

COUNCIL continued from page 1

have an additional burden of more than three cents on every tax dollar.

Roberts considered the statement unfair, noting that Program Open Space is funded by tax dollars from all Maryland residents.

City Acting Director of Public Works Jim Sterling said the project will begin September 8. During the four to six weeks of construction, improvements will also be made to the locker rooms. Construction will begin on the park side of the pool, allowing the city to keep the outdoor pool open three weeks longer than usual. It is expected that city residents may have no pool at their disposal for up to three weeks during the closures. Those who hold pool passes will be given an additional three week extension on their pass to compensate for the time they are unable to use the facility.

The resolution passed 6-1.

Theater

Later in the meeting, Roberts also cast the only vote against the use of the Greenbelt Theater by the Prince George's County Historical Society for its Annual Prince of the County fundraiser on Sept. 13, saying that he opposed the use because the society planned to serve alcohol after viewing a movie about Greenbelt.

This was the first such request to come before council, which is required to give approval to any request for use of alcohol at the theater.

"Why do we need to serve alcohol?" Roberts asked. "Can you go anywhere where you don't have to have alcohol?" It turned people like me off and I don't want to go. I don't want to go out to this function if it's going to be serving alcohol in a city premises. We need to set an example and we need to have a place where people can go and be away from alcohol."

Roberts vowed to vote against any request that included serving alcohol on a city premises.

Councilmember Leta Mach said she didn't feel it was council's job to decide what other organizations should or should not do in relation to their events.

"If the Prince George's County Historical Society feels that serving wine is appropriate for their event then that is their decision," she said.

With a 6-1 vote, council gave approval for the use of the theater for the fundraiser.

Path Pavement

A 625 sq. ft. path for the Belle Point playground caused a 1-6 vote for the evening, in which council voted against a previously considered "green" option and then voted 6-1 to put in a concrete path. In this instance,

it was Davis who dissented.

Two options for a path to the playground were presented to council for discussion and a vote – a \$3,000 concrete path or a \$10,000 pervious path made from material similar to that used on a path at Buddy Attick Park near the restrooms.

Drainage necessary for a pervious path, price differences and time for installation were all issues raised during the discussion.

Sterling told council that a pervious path would take more than three times as long to construct and involves quite a bit more labor, which adds greatly to the cost. He told council that after factoring in all the information, "In this situation the dollars don't make sense for the product that's going in there." He also noted the increased amount of maintenance needed for a pervious path.

Councilman Roberts said he believed spending an additional \$7,000 to have a pervious path was a poor use of city funds.

"We've got plenty of other things to spend our money on," Roberts said.

Sterling agreed.

"I think this is the only time you'll hear me come to you and say my recommendation is regular concrete and not a pervious or other green technology out there, but in this case, as Mr. Roberts mentioned also, it's a wooded area, there's a lot of leaves a lot of debris, keeping it clean is key," Sterling said.

Davis, however, spoke in favor of the pervious concrete option, noting the city's interest in "green" materials.

"I appreciate the fact that there is a time factor, a cost factor and so on, but I'm going to vote no because my principles are that anywhere we can do green. We should. We tend to say we are wonderful green community and so on, yet sometimes we are not that green," Davis said. "If it's a choice between pervious green and just regular concrete, I will always vote it down."

Negotiated Purchases

Council unanimously approved a resolution that would allow some pre-approved city vendors who provide consistent goods or services, no single item of which totals \$10,000 or more, to transact business with the city during this fiscal year without going through the bid process.

The resolution allows 113 listed vendors to sell or provide services to the city "based on the best current negotiated or contract price available." The city manager is authorized to purchase these goods and services without seeking bids or requiring councils pre-approval.

Forest Preserve

During petitions, resident Willis Witter requested that council authorize posting to the city website the two bids submitted by companies to assess the health of the forest preserve, noting that both were lengthy and those who wanted to review them would require a great deal of time to form an informed opinion about which the city should select, if either firm.

"I want the information made public and people given enough time to sit down and study what's here," Witter said.

Mayor Emmett V. Jordan and several councilmembers told Witter that the normal process does not allow them to review proposed bids prior to review and recommendations by staff and select advisory committees, so posting to the website

Roberts said he had seen the bids and was concerned that the request for proposals and scope of the bids does not comply with an earlier city council direction to seek bids and what the proposals should include. Specifically, Roberts said the ordinance calls for a review by forest biologists, not landscape architects or forest architect firms as is the case in the two submissions received.

Animal Control

Davis reported that animal control efforts to drastically reduce the colonies of feral cats

within the city through a trap, spay/neuter and release program has been very effective.

Since 2006 when the program began, the effort has cut the number of colonies from 34 to 13, reducing the overall feral cat population from an estimated 350 to about 99. The two largest colonies remain to the rear of the Beltway Plaza Mall and behind the CVS on Greenbelt Road near the Beltway Plaza Mall.

Davis said she believes many of the cats in the colonies who are not offspring of others in that colony are dumped by people moving out of their apartments in Greenbelt West.

Social Security

Early in the meeting, council unanimously approved a proclamation in honor of Social Security's 80th Anniversary. The proclamation, read by Jordan, congratulates the Social Security Administration "on this momentous occasion and urge(s) all our citizen to observe this important milestone."

The anniversary was celebrated August 14 and Jordan and other members of council presented the proclamation to the Social Security Administration office in Lanham as part of their larger celebration.



Condolences to the family and friends of author Kenneth Hal Reigner, 66, of Lakeside Drive, who died August 8, 2015. A memorial service will be held in Washington, D.C. in the fall.

We were sorry to hear of the unexpected death of Sean Davis, 41, of Bowie on August 14, 2015. He was a NASA employee and general manager of the Greenbelt Concert Band, where he also played bass trombone and was a member of the Brass Choir.

We'd like to honor more of our Greenbelt graduates! Leave a message at 301-474-6892 to have the announcement published next week.

To send information for Our Neighbors, email us at editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

Kathleen McFarland

Ready 2 Read At The Library

Helping families with young children to talk, sing, read, draw/write, play and learn together is the goal of the recently opened Ready 2 Read Center at the Greenbelt Branch library. This space gives very young children the opportunity to enjoy literacy-rich, hands-on experiences and activities, such as blocks, dramatic play and puzzles. As they engage children in play, parents and caregivers strengthen their role as the child's first teacher and excite young minds to think creatively. An early literacy information display provides adults with ideas to take home and try. For more information, call 301-345-5800 or stop by the library at 11 Crescent Road.

Arts Advisory Board Meets

The Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board will meet on Tuesday, September 1 at 7 p.m. at the Community Center. For additional information, contact Nicole DeWald, staff liaison at ndewald@greenbeltdm.org or 240-542-2057.



GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Come worship God with us!

Sunday School 9:45AM
Worship Service 11:00AM

**101 Greenhill Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
(301) 474-4212 www.greenbeltbaptist.org**

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltmumc.org 301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

Worship Service 10 a.m.
Join us for Sunday breakfast 8:30.

Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1 Hillside (at Crescent Road)
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.
Rev. Glennyce Grindstaff, Pastor

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322

Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

Mishkan Torah Congregation
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

Friday evening services 8:00 PM, except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:30 PM

Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM.
Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Conservative and Reconstructionist

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

Aug 23 10 a.m.
"Because of Her, We Can"

Dayna Edwards, Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration

The life and actions of Rosa Parks

*****This is an All Ages Celebration; children and youth are invited to remain in the Meetinghouse for the entire service. Nursery Care for the youngest is provided in Room 5.*****

Catholic Community of Greenbelt

SUNDAY MASS, 10:00 AM
MUNICIPAL BUILDING

SERVE BREAKFAST AT S.O.M.E.
Sunday, August 30
Meet at St. Hugh's School Parking Lot, 6:00 AM
All are welcome.

Upcoming Events At The New Deal

Friday, August 21, John Guernsey plays American standards on piano from 7 to 8 p.m. followed by 49 Cent Dress with a tasty mix of rock and roll with a dash of blues and soul from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 22, the Jazz Jam with Greg Meyer will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. Bring an instrument and join in this community jam session. Guernsey plays blues standards on piano from 7 to 8 p.m. Friends of New Deal Café Arts, with the support of the City of Greenbelt, sponsors A Blues Sampler: A Night with Max Ochs, Neil Harpe, Melvin Caldwell and Carly Harvey from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. See newdealcafe.com for more details.

Sunday, August 23, the Deaf Brunch will be held from 10:30 a.m. to noon. In the evening, Big Band Tradition performs a range of jazz from vintage to modern from 5 to 8 p.m.

Monday, August 24, the New Deal Board of Directors meeting from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Members and visitors are welcome.

Tuesday, August 25, CLaw Comedy Productions hosts The New Deal Laugh-In with a fresh group of stand-up comedians from 7 to 9 p.m. This show is for an adult audience.

Wednesday, August 26, the monthly Cajun Music Jam will be held from 7 to 9 p.m.

Thursday, August 27, Mid-Day Melodies with Amy C Kraft from noon to 2 p.m. Lynn Hollyfield hosts the SAW Open Mic from 7 to 10 p.m.

Friday, August 28, Guernsey plays American standards on piano from 7 to 8 p.m. Hypnotic Willie, a musical ensemble, performs a mix of roots, soul, blues, funk and good time rock and roll from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 29, Guernsey plays jazz piano from 7 to 8 p.m., followed by a café favorite Cold Hard Cash. This Johnny Cash tribute band offers spot-on re-creations of both the sound and spirit of the originals.



Used Book Sale at Labor Day Festival

Benefiting
Greenbelt Elementary
School PTA

Book donation drop-off at
Co-op Supermarket & Greenbriar
August 1 - September 2, 2015
For information on large donation
pickup, call 956-639-6434.

Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday
10am – 4pm

Good, clean clothes for women,
men and children!
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111



City Information

MEETINGS FOR WEEK OF AUGUST 24-28

Monday, August 24 at 8:00pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION**-
Cherrywood Lane Design at Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at www.greenbeltdmd.gov/municipality.

Tuesday, August 25 at 5:30pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES** at the Public Works Facility, 555 Crescent Rd.

Tuesday, August 25 at 7:00pm, **GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMITTEE EDUCATION** at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Rd.

Tuesday, August 25 at 7:30pm, **GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (Green ACES) and GREEN TEAM** at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd.

Wednesday, August 26 at 7:00pm **SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE** at Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd., Room 111

Wednesday, August 26 at 8:00pm **COUNCIL WORK SESSION** on Economic Development Proposal, at Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd.

The schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Arts Advisory Board, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, and Youth Advisory Committee
For information call 301-474-8000.

PEPCO tree trimming/removal plans are now posted on the city's website at www.greenbeltdmd.gov/public_works

They are also on display at the Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Road.

There has been one Council work session on these plans on July 22, 2015. It is likely another will be scheduled in late August or early September

Family Night at Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center, 101 Centerway

Friday, August 21 from 8-10pm

Admittance to the pool will be \$3.00 for all families, including passholders. Bring your pool toys and the whole family for an evening of fun!

Family Swim Night is designed to give families an opportunity to spend an evening together in a recreational atmosphere. Entering family must have at least one adult. Families will be charged \$1.00 for each additional non-family member, with a limit of three non-family members per group. In case of inclement weather, the event will be moved to the Indoor Pool.

GAFC: 301-397-2204



Greenbelt Animal Shelter

550-A Crescent Road

301-474-6124

Open Wednesdays 4-7pm and
Saturdays 9am-12pm

Outlaw came into the shelter very shy and anxious and was afraid to be pet, but he has really come out of his shell. Now he loves to be pet and give head butts. Midnight is a small male Guinea Pig. He is very friendly. Visit Midnight and all our available pets just waiting to be your friend!



FIND US ON FACEBOOK!
See pets at www.greenbeltdmd.gov/animalshelter

STAY INFORMED!

For City of Greenbelt Information, Events, Services, Election Information and more, visit Greenbelt CityLink at www.greenbeltdmd.gov. Like City of Greenbelt on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt

Follow us on Twitter @cityofgreenbelt and on Instagram @cityofgreenbelt.

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION

NOMINATIONS FOR 2015 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

In accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter, a regular election will be held in the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, on Tuesday, November 3, 2015, to elect the seven members of the City Council.

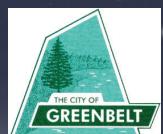
Any qualified voter of the City may be nominated for the office of Member of Council upon filing a nomination petition with the City Clerk (signed by not fewer than 50 Greenbelt resident voters), a written acceptance of the nomination, and other statements that are required by the City Charter or by law. Required forms and information are available in the City Clerk's Office, 25 Crescent Road, from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

**NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL 5:00 PM
ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015.**

For additional information, call Cindy Murray, City Clerk, at 301-474-8000, or e-mail cmurray@greenbeltdmd.gov.

The City of Greenbelt

Presents



Moonlit Movies

**featuring Disney's
Robin Hood**
Friday, August 21
8:30 pm
Schrom Hills Park
6915 Hanover Parkway



Back by popular demand!
Grab a blanket, a lawn chair, family friends, neighbors or co-workers and enjoy FREE outdoor movies.
In case of rain the movie will be shown on Saturday, August 22 at same time and location. Supported by the Old Greenbelt Theatre and the City of Greenbelt

GREENBELT'S COMMUNITY PLEDGE

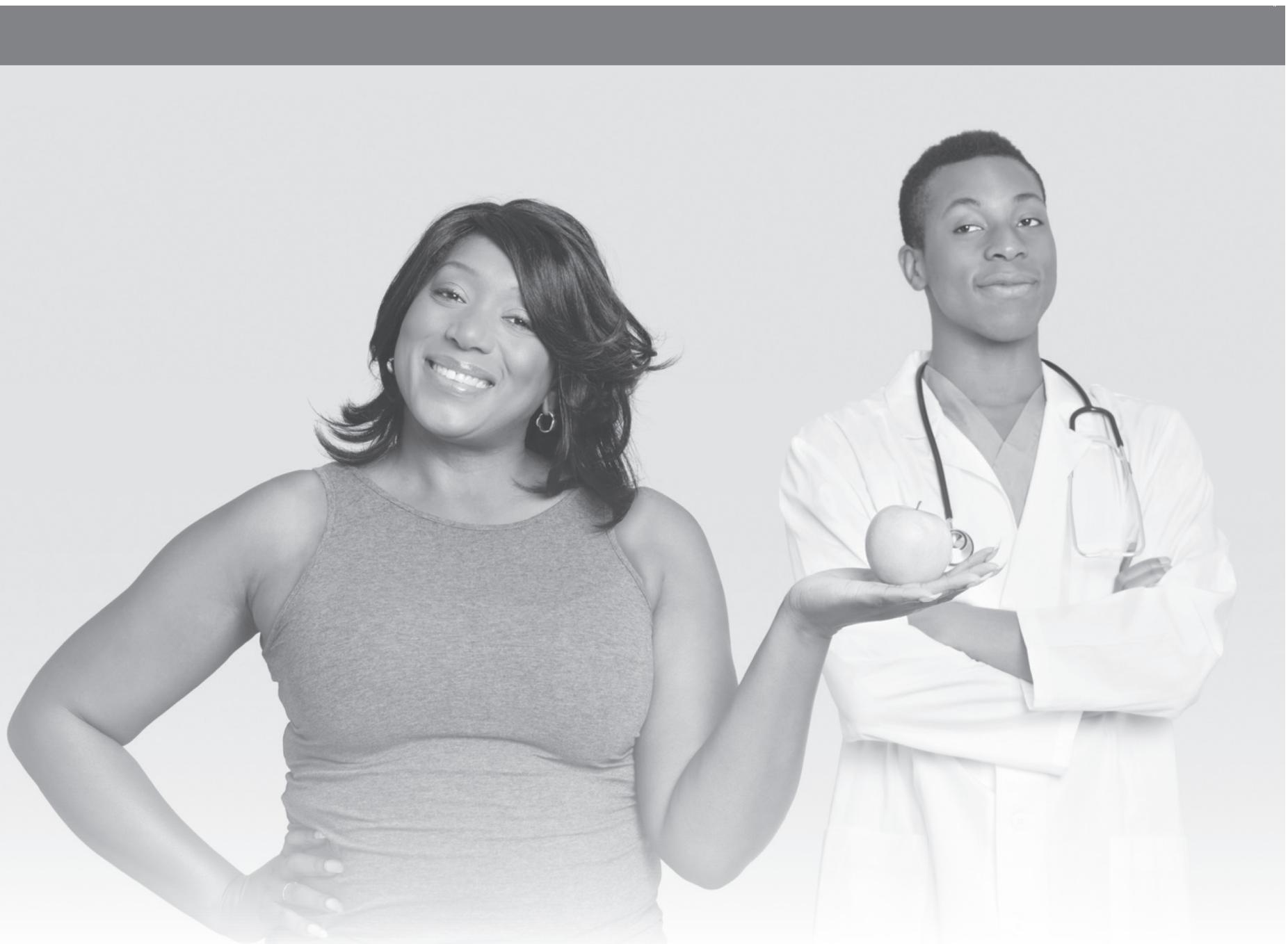
The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate people of many cultures, faiths, and races living together. By sharing together all are enriched. We pledge to foster a community which is respectful, safe, and fair for all people.

DONATION DROP-OFF TO RESUME ON SEPTEMBER 12TH!

GreenDrop™
CHARITABLE DONATIONS

GreenDrop will be collecting your items on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month in the Municipal Center Parking lot from 9:00am-12:00pm.

Items to be collected include: Small Appliances, Bedding, Draperies, Games/Toys, Books, CDs and Videos, Clothing, Electronics NO MONITORS, Kitchen Items, Household Items, Sporting Goods and more. Please visit their website at <https://www.gogreendrop.com> for a complete list of acceptable items.



Looking Great Never Felt So Good

***Weight Loss Surgery Helps to Improve Overall Health.
It May Reduce or Eliminate the Need for Some Medications.***

Obesity is often linked to diabetes, sleep apnea, heart disease and many other conditions. Bariatric surgery may help.

Doctors Community Hospital's Bariatric and Weight Loss Center provides professional, innovative and compassionate care to support people during their weight loss journeys. **In fact, we were the first hospital in Prince George's County to offer minimally invasive bariatric surgery using the daVinci® robotic surgical system.** This type of surgery may result in reduced pain, shorter hospitalization and faster recovery.

Our comprehensive program provides:

- Experienced surgeons and a compassionate medical team
- Access to weight management and behavior modification therapy
- Advanced bariatric surgery technology
- Dedicated bariatric suites
- Access to additional services — Joslin Diabetes Center, Sleep Center, Comprehensive Orthopedic Services and others — all conveniently located at Doctors Community Hospital to further your overall health goals

If you are an adult who is at least 30 pounds overweight, call us today to learn whether bariatric weight loss surgery is right for you! We accept most insurance plans and welcome new patients.

301-DCH-4YOU | 301-324-4968 | DCHweightloss.org



Bariatric and Weight Loss Center
8116 Good Luck Road
Professional Office Building
Suite 210
Lanham, Maryland 20706

The Flame of Poetry

by Jim Link

The flame of poetry in Greenbelt burns a little brighter thanks to the creativity and enthusiasm of a dozen children in the Recreation Department's Creative Kids Summer Camp.

Rob Soley, a local Greenbelt poet, conducted a haiku writing workshop at the Greenbelt Community Center Friday, Aug 6, using various prompts and examples from Basho and Issa, classical Japanese haiku masters. The budding poets then migrated outdoors, settled on the green grass, lolled in the shade of tall trees, chewed on their pencils and birthed a bunch of beautiful, insightful, sharp, humorous 17 syllable gems.

Herewith are a few of those diamonds in the rough.

The Sky

Orange and pink can strike it too
The sky can touch you
by Julia

The Magnificent Outdoors

Beautiful flowers
The branches curl peacefully
Insects crawl over trash
by Danya

Our Earth

Nature all around us
Many people and cultures
That makes life peaceful
by Alexis

Rain

Rain falls from the sky
It never stays around here
Always disappears
by Renny

These and other haiku will soon appear in the Poetry Moment Box, the plexiglass display case in front of the New Deal Café, over the next few weeks or months.

Also coming there soon is the poetry of Lenore Thomas, legendary sculptor of the Mother and Child statue that graces Roosevelt Center, and the superb friezes of depression era workers on the front of Greenbelt Community Center.

Who knew that Thomas wrote a touching meditation on her artistic vocation called Stone Dust? Thanks to Megan Searing Young's recent exhibition of Thomas's life and work in the Greenbelt Museum, we now know.

You too can have your poetry considered for installment in the Poetry Moment Box. Send your haiku, sonnet, free verse, poetic prose (preferably one page) to cafepoetrymoment@gmail.com. The New Deal Café website has more details. Chew on your pencils, birth a beauty!



PHOTO BY KYLA HANINGTON

Wood duck at Greenbelt Lake

These are just a few of the great buys you will find at Co-op this week!

Prices Effective: AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
24	25	26	27	28	29	

121 CENTERWAY-ROOSEVELT CENTER GREENBELT, MARYLAND
Visit us online at www.greenbelt.coop

SUPERMARKET

Monday thru Saturday 9 a.m. until 9 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-0522

PHARMACY

Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. until 7 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-4400
Closed Sunday



Fresh Quality Meat	Farm Fresh Produce	Dairy	Frozen	Seafood
Fresh Value Pack \$3.99 lb. 85% Extra Lean Ground Beef	Ripe or Green Nutritious Bananas \$44¢ lb.	Best Yet Vegetable Spread Quarters 16 oz. 88¢	Tyson Assorted Boneless Chicken \$4.99 25-32 oz.	Fresh Catch Cod Fillets \$6.99 lb.
Fresh Value Pack \$1.29 lb. Chicken Leg Quarters	Large Crisp Iceberg Lettuce \$1.50 Head	Dannon-Oikos Light + Fit Assorted Greek Yogurts 5.3 oz. \$1.00	Best Yet Ice Cream Assorted 48 oz. \$2.00	Sea Best Frozen Haddock Fillets \$5.99 lb.
Ball Park Meat Franks BUY ONE GET ONE FREE 15 oz. Select Varieties	Fresh Sweet Eastern Peaches 88¢ lb.	Best Yet American Cheese Slices \$2.00 12 oz.	McCain Potato Fries + Cuts Assorted \$2.50 19 - 32 oz.	Pasteurized Lump Crab Meat \$14.99 1 lb.

Grocery Bargains

San Giorgio Assorted Spaghetti or Macaroni 9-16 oz.	Red Pack Assorted Family Size Canned Tomatoes 28-29 oz.
Kraft Assorted Mayonnaise - Miracle Whip 22-30 oz.	Pillsbury Cake Mix \$1.00 Assorted 15.25 oz.

Customer Appreciation Discount Day

Wednesday, August 26

5% Discount to ALL customers on ALL purchases (except stamps and gift cards)

Grocery Bargains

HI-C Assorted Lunch Box Fruit Drinks 10 PK.	Kraft Family Size Salad Dressings Assorted 16 oz. \$2.00
Kellogg's Assorted Special K Cereals 10-13 oz. \$2.50	Star Kist Chunk light Tuna 5 oz. 88¢

Deli

Imported Cooked Ham \$3.99 lb.	Fresh Store Baked Egg Onion Sub Rolls 6 pk. \$2.49
Biery Muenster Cheese \$3.99 lb.	Fresh Store Baked Cherry Pie 8 Inch \$3.99

Natural & Gourmet

Seitenbacker Natural Musli Assorted 16 oz. \$3.99
Robert's Natural Pirate Booty Snacks 4 oz. \$1.99

Health & Beauty

Nature Made Vitamins + Supplements Assorted BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	Advil Pain Reliever Tabs/Caps/Gels 50 pk. \$4.99
Steeple Jack Wines 750 ML. \$6.99	Miller High Life Beer 18 PK - 12. oz. \$9.99

Check out our **best buy Savings** on thousands of items throughout the store. Look for the green **best buy** shelf tags in all departments.

We reserve the right to limit quantities. No sales to dealers please. Co-op is not responsible for typographical errors. Other great weekly specials are featured in our 6-page full color ad flier inserted in your News Review.

Theater Hosts Fundraiser To Empower Deaf Youth

On Sunday, August 30 at 1 p.m., the Old Greenbelt Theatre will show the movie Deaf People in Havana. The movie will be American Sign Language (ASL) interpreted.

A new chapter in Cuban-U.S. diplomatic relations is here, and travel to this island nation, 90 miles from the U.S., will soon become easier. In this documentary film, deaf filmmakers Joel Barish and Andrés Otalora embark on a unique 90-minute visual journey through Havana, and follow the everyday lives of

deaf Cubans who earn their living in such jobs as cigar maker, actor, seamstress and street vendor. The dialogue is in Spanish and ASL with English subtitles.

Get lunch from vendors at the Greenbelt Farmers Market or at the New Deal Café. Refreshments will also be sold, including Rita's Ice, which will donate a percentage of sales to International Deaf Partnerships (IDP).

Special thanks to Joel Barish at DeafNation (deafnation.com) for providing this special screening to IDP, and to Caitlin McGrath, ex-

ecutive director of the Old Greenbelt Theatre, for her enthusiastic hosting of this fundraiser.

This fundraiser is sponsored by IDP, a non-profit organization devoted to empowering deaf communities in developing nations. This newly formed non-profit raises funds for deaf youth to go to camp and obtain scholarships in developing countries - currently in Guatemala and Haiti. IDP also runs camps during school breaks. For more information, contact IDPartnerships@gmail.com.

Fountain Community Enrichment, Inc.
6th Annual Fountain Community Fair
6^{ta} Feria Anual Comunitaria

SERVICES PROVIDED

- JOB READINESS PROGRAMS
- EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
- BASIC HEALTH SCREENINGS
- FREE FOOD AND FRESH PRODUCE
- HOMEOWNERSHIP PRESERVATION

OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED

Pro-Bono Attorneys — Mortgage Banks — Housing Counselors

SERVICIOS PROVEÍDOS

- PROGRAMAS DE PREPARACIÓN DE EMPLEO
- OPORTUNIDADES EDUCATIVAS
- EXÁMENES BÁSICOS DE SALUD
- ALIMENTOS Y PRODUCTOS FRESCOS GRATIS
- AYUDA PARA PRESERVACIÓN DE SU VIVIENDA
- PREMIOS DE ENTRADA Y MUCHO MÁS

OTROS SERVICIOS PROVEÍDOS

Abogados Pro-Bono — Bancos Hipotecarios— Asesores Para Viviendas

AUGUST 29, 2015 (12-4 PM)
DU VAL HIGH SCHOOL
9880 GOOD LUCK ROAD, LANHAM, MD 20706

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER AND AN EARLY DETECTION COULD SAVE A LIFE
SABER ES PODER Y UNA DETECCIÓN TEMPRANA PUEDE SALVAR UNA VIDA

SOLAR continued from page 1

generated by the solar panels not required for city use to enter the Pepco system.

According to Skolnik, Solar City would sell the generated energy to the city at between 6.4 and 6.9 cents a kilowatt hour, as compared to the average Pepco rate of 9.3. The company would also obtain the renewable energy credits established by the federal government to encourage the use of non-biofuels. These credits have a value like other commodities that can be bought and sold in open markets. The projected net energy cost savings to the city is estimated to be almost \$960,000 over 20 years.

Besides lower city energy costs, Skolnik said the panel installation would not harm city roofs, but instead extend their life by protecting them from harmful ultraviolet radiation. In addition, cost savings would provide enough to pay for the next roof replacements. Using solar power would also reduce Pepco's coal consumption, which generates a variety of pollutants and Greenbelt would be demonstrating its environmental stewardship.

This proposal is a lease-purchase agreement, Skolnik said. Alternative financial options are for the city to pay the installation and maintenance costs itself or to enter into a solar power purchase agreement as the city has done for wind power. He noted that with the city's purchase of wind power, the city still pays full cost for energy distribution to city facilities, whereas if the city generated solar power, its entire electric bill would be reduced. While a Solar City contract would probably be for 20 or more years, Skolnik said the life expectancy of the panels would be more like 35. Eventually, productivity of the panels will fall off.

Other members of the Solar Task Force besides Skolnik are Matt Dirksen, John Lippert and city Sustainability Coordinator Louisa Robles.

Questions

Councilmember Judith Davis asked about maintenance requirements. Would someone have to get on the roofs to clean off snow from the panels? How about security – was there a danger of someone being electrocuted?

Skolnik replied that snow removal might be necessary in Scandinavia, but here nature would be allowed to take its own course, allowing the snow to melt naturally. The ground area would be secured by a fence and power would be turned off before any maintenance work was done.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts said he wanted to "disconnect" the city from Pepco and asked what it would take to do that. Skolnik said the city does have enough suitable spaces to place solar panels to do that. "While the trees and forest in Greenbelt are great, they limit

the use of solar panels," he said. Lippert added that if Pepco didn't do it, then the city would have to maintain the system.

Skolnik also noted that if the city undertook self-ownership instead of the lease/purchase proposed, it would have a very costly initial outlay. To do the Public Works facility alone would initially cost \$450,000. Under the Solar City proposal, the contractor would install the panels and system. The city would get all the electricity, but pay for it at rates lower than Pepco, the contractor would maintain the system, but after a 25- to 30-year contract, the city would own the facility.

There are a number of incentives made available to encourage solar use, Skolnik said. The federal government offers an investment tax credit of 30 percent of the initial cost; however, this will expire December 31, 2016 unless renewed by Congress, something expected if legislation is not blocked by party infighting. The state government offers Renewable Energy Certificates, one for each 1,000 kilowatt hours generated, which can be sold as a commodity. The county provides a tax credit. There is some urgency to make a decision to enable installation before the federal credits might expire, Skolnik said.

Other Locations

The possibility of installations elsewhere was discussed. Skolnik noted that Solar City was a big supplier of solar generation and preferred doing larger projects. The company was not interested in doing other city buildings. However, other companies might. Some city buildings are overshadowed by trees, limiting solar generation. Also, panels need to be installed on a roof with a long life expectancy and many city buildings have older roofs. The Aquatic Center is getting a new roof over the pool, but this is of light-weight material to allow light into the pool and would not support solar panels that also would block out light.

Roberts said he would like to see panels at the end of Gardenway, but Davis said she believed that space was needed for more ballfields. There ensued discussion among councilmembers as to the suitability of the area for ballfields.

Lorie Rosenthal, from the audience, proposed covering city parking lots with carport-like roofs, but Skolnik said the cost would be too high.

Glitches

Even before city staff discussed the proposal, Skolnik noted unresolved problems.

The grass field at the end of Mandan Road is in part a public right-of-way dedicated by the Greenbriar developers in order to connect Mandan to a proposed bridge over the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. On the other

side, the road was planned to become a perimeter road around historic Greenbelt. That plan is long gone and the extended Mandan right-of-way is no longer needed. The remainder of the designated area for solar panels is Greenbriar property. For the city to use it, a lease would be needed.

In a memorandum to council City Manager Michael McLaughlin, who was absent from the meeting, reported that Skolnik had made a presentation to the Greenbriar Community Association Board on July 22, but no report was made as to the outcome of that meeting. At the worksession, Assistant City Manager David Moran told council that he thought Greenbriar would at a minimum want to be paid an amount equal to the energy cost savings the city would achieve for a lease.

Davis pointed out that two apartment buildings overlook this area and the residents might not be too happy viewing solar panels instead of lawn. While Skolnik felt the city should not let four to six people squelch the deal, Davis noted that other less intrusive proposals at Greenbriar had been blocked by resident opposition. Roberts said he wouldn't like to see that kind of a change in a residential community and felt it would be better to do something in a commercial area.

Without the Greenbriar property, the cost savings to the city would be reduced by almost 40 percent and Solar City would not be interested in the job, Acting Public Works Director James Sterling told council. However other companies would be, he said. Council agreed that the Greenbriar Association would have to be involved in considering this proposal.

Sterling raised another problem – the city may have to take open bids. While the city can contract with firms on the basis of competitive bids awarded in other jurisdictions, as it does for the purchase of road salt and police cars and thereby save much staff work and time, the proposal of Solar City quotes different prices for Greenbelt than it did for Montgomery County. Further, the company took exception to a number of requirements that are in the Montgomery County contract.

Because of the uncertainty of legislation to extend investment tax credits beyond 2016, the task force, in a June 17 report, advised council that Solar City sought a city commitment by July 2015.

The age and condition of the Greenridge House roof is another unanswered question the task force noted in an April 15

report. Panels probably cannot be installed there until the roof is replaced.

Molly Lester, in the audience, raised another issue. She questioned Solar City's viability, noting that the company had yet to make a profit and that it had other issues and was under investigation. She also said that Montgomery County had received expressions of interest from 21 companies for its solar panel project.

Next Step

Mayor Emmett Jordan thanked the Task Force and staff for the presentation. He suggested that this was the time to move forward, particularly due to possible time constraints for the federal program. He asked what the next step should be.

Moran referred council to McLaughlin's August 5 memorandum recommending that the next steps to take were to determine Greenbriar's interest in the Mandan Road site, for staff to research other contract possibilities such as one being done by the Maryland National Capital

Park and Planning Commission and to evaluate proposals of other solar vendors.

Jordan expressed concern that the city work closely with Greenbriar and that possibly the council will need to meet with the association.

Sterling said while there are other vendors, he felt that latching on to the Montgomery County contract would be a good thing for the city to do, if possible, because the county staff took all factors into consideration when preparing it. For Greenbelt to do its own contract, while possible, would engender a lot of staff work and time.

Roberts said he didn't want to be "hounded" into doing something; the city should find the best system. Councilmember Konrad Herling said it was important to do a thorough review of Solar City and all potential vendors.



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City Notes

Animal Control staff removed a trapped mother cat and kitten; three cats, one dog and one guinea pig were adopted; a dog was surrendered after being impounded for neglect; one dog was impounded after being removed from a hot, parked vehicle and a possible cruelty case was investigated.

Planning staff prepared A briefing on the status of Greenbelt Lake dam repairs.

Horticulture/Parks crews lined the soccer field at Schrom Hills Park for the upcoming soccer camp and removed graffiti from the back of the Youth Center sidewalk.

Refuse/Recycling/Sustainability crews collected 29.33 tons of refuse and 12.06 tons of recyclable material.

Street Maintenance/Special Details crews started preparations for the upcoming Labor Day Festival.

CARES

Registration for the fall GED course will be held at two locations this year –

Springhill Lake Recreational Center Clubhouse on Tuesday, September 8 at 10 a.m. and the Municipal Building on Wednesday, September 9 at 10 a.m.



Robbery

August 11, 10:14 p.m., 7800 block Mandan Road. When a pizza delivery person entered the stairwell of the apartment building to make a delivery, a man in the stairwell armed with a handgun announced a robbery and ordered him to the ground. The man took money, a cell phone and keys and fled on foot, along with another man who took the food being delivered. It was discovered later that additional food for other deliveries, left in the car, was also taken.

Attempted Robbery

August 9, 5:30 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court. Three men approached another man in the parking lot and demanded his wallet. When he said he did not have one, they punched him several times and then fled on foot. The man was treated at Doctors Community Hospital for facial injuries. Two of the men are described as being black, one 5'7" and the other 6'2" tall, both with shoulder-length dreadlocks, wearing white shirts and blue jeans. The third man, also black, was described as 6' tall, with closed-cropped hair, wearing a black shirt and black pants.

DWI/DUI

August 8, 11:40 p.m., Cherrywood Lane near I-495. A 29-year-old Greenbelt resident was arrested and charged with al-

cohol- and traffic-related charges after being stopped for a traffic violation. He was released on citations pending trial.

Counterfeit Money

August 5, 10:45 a.m., 7400 block Greenbelt Road. A man entered Advanced Auto Parts and purchased merchandise with what was later discovered to be several counterfeit bills. He is described as black, 5'11" tall, 190 pounds, wearing a yellow shirt, black shorts, a black baseball cap and sunglasses.

Vandalism

August 6, 7:30 a.m., 100 block Centerway. A door at the Aquatic and Fitness Center was spray painted with graffiti.

August 6, 11:17 a.m., 8200 block Canning Terrace. A fence was spray painted with graffiti.

August 6, 4:40 p.m., 99 Centerway. A storage building at the Youth Center was painted with graffiti.

August 7, 12:30 a.m., 7200 Hanover Drive. A glass door was broken at Willy K's Restaurant.

August 12, 1:06 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Lane. A witness reported seeing five youths discharge a fire extinguisher in the hallway of an apartment building.

August 12, 3 p.m., 6200 block Springhill Drive. A 17-year-old Greenbelt youth was arrested for

malicious destruction after punching holes in a wall at Franklin Park Fitness Center. He was released to a parent pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

Vehicle Crime

Two stolen vehicles were recovered. A 2007 Lexus ES350 reported stolen August 3 from the 7900 block Mandan Road was recovered August 9 by Anne Arundel County police in the 7000 block Arundel Mills Circle in Hanover. An arrest was made.

A 2015 Chevrolet Silverado SUV stolen August 8 from the 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace was recovered August 12 by Prince George's County police in the 8600 block Baltimore Avenue in College Park.

Four reports of thefts from autos were received. In the 100 block Westway a rear Md. tag 4BR6521 was taken and in the 7400 block Greenbelt Road a purse was taken after the driver side window was broken. A Md. driver's license and rear Md. tag

7CA6410 were taken in the 9200 block Edmonston Road after a car door was forced open by tampering with the handle. A spare key was taken from an unsecured vehicle in the 5700 block Greenbelt Metro Drive.

Two incidents of vandalism involved breaking of vehicle windows. A rear windshield was broken on Forestway and a rock was used to break a side window in the 9100 block Springhill Lane.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.

Call 1-866-411-TIPS.

People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.



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To participate in the Greenbelt Labor Day Parade, go to the website <http://greenbeltlaborday.com/get-involved/parade-participants/>, download a parade application form, fill it out and submit it to GreenbeltLaborDayParade@verizon.net no later than August 28, 2015. See the above website link for more information on the parade.

Protect the Forest Preserve - Come to the August 31st Work Session!

Attention all Greenbelters: Protect the Greenbelt Forest Preserve. Please come to the August 31st work session in the Municipal Building at 8 p.m. Be sure to check the city website for any changes to this date (www.greenbeltdmd.gov).

The council should stop the city from contracting with a Forest Conservation Act (FCA) Service Provider to assess the health of the Forest Preserve. The city intends to include language in the contract asking the FCA Service Provider to recommend changes to the city code and to the Forest Preserve Management and Maintenance Guidelines (Guidelines) which together have protected the Forest Preserve for the past twelve years.

In October 2003 the council passed legislation creating the Forest Preserve which consists of over 220 acres of forested areas in Greenbelt managed as protected, undeveloped, and undisturbed areas for the benefit of current and future generations. The council, at the time, determined the residents should be stewards to protect the natural qualities of these areas and appointed a task force to write the Forest Preserve Guidelines. The Guidelines include a provision for a forest biologist/ecologist to provide a health assessment if such an assessment were deemed necessary. They did not require a health assessment be done.

On November 24, 2014, council passed three important motions. (1) According to draft minutes, Rodney Roberts moved that council proceed on contracting with a professional forest biologist/ecologist to **assess the health of the Forest Preserve**. Mayor Jordan responded by encouraging staff to seek a professional forest biologist/ecologist. (2) According to the minutes, Judith Davis moved that council direct the Forest Preserve Advisory Board to **review the Forest Preserve Guidelines and prepare a list of recommended changes to council**. (3) Judith Davis also moved that council direct city staff to **review the Forest Preserve chapter of the city code and update it as needed** and that proposed changes be referred to the Advisory Board for review and then to council.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was written by the city. According to Celia Craze, the city sent over 120 solicitations for proposals. These primarily went to firms identified as Forest Conservation Act (FCA) Service Providers listed on the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) web site. Only five solicitations went to individuals or firms suggested by Advisory Board members. According to Celia Craze, only five proposals were received by the city. All of the proposals are from FCA Service Providers.

FCA Service Providers are entities approved by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to assist developers in creating the Forest Conservation Plan that is required for certain planned developments in Maryland. The list includes foresters, landscape architects, and others. The mindset is controlled development rather than preservation and ecology.

According to Dr. Marc Lapin, ecologist and environmental studies professor at Middlebury College, a **forest biologist/ecologist** (as required by the Forest Preserve Guidelines) is a better choice than a forester to do the assessment (if one is done at all). A forest biologist/ecologist has a broad perspective of the relationships between plants, animals, soils, water and rocks. In contrast, a forester's perspective puts more emphasis on 'managing' the forest for use and economic gain.

A contract with a FCA Service Provider will be inconsistent with Roberts' motion (approved 7-0), Mayor Jordan's encouragement, and the Forest Preserve Guidelines.

Please contact the members of council and the city clerk to let them know that you want the process to award a contract stopped and to leave alone the documents that protect the Forest Preserve. The contact information is:

Judith Davis: Phone: 301-474-8000 Email: jdavis@greenbeltdmd.gov

Emmett Jordan: Phone: 301-474-8000 Email: ejordan@greenbeltdmd.gov

Konrad Herling: Phone: 301-474-8000 Email: kherling@greenbeltdmd.gov

Leta Mach: Phone: 301-474-8000 Email: lmach@greenbeltdmd.gov

Silke Pope: Phone: 301-474-8000 Email: spope@greenbeltdmd.gov

Edward Putens: Phone: 301-474-8000 Email: eputens@greenbeltdmd.gov

Rodney Roberts: Phone: 301-474-8000 Email: rroberts@greenbeltdmd.gov

City Clerk Cindy Murray: Phone: 301-474-3870 Email: cmurray@greenbeltdmd.gov

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Film on Rosenwald Coming to Old Greenbelt Theater

By Susan Pearl

Beginning on Friday, August 28 and continuing through Thursday, September 3, the Old Greenbelt Theatre will show the new film Rosenwald, which tells the story of Julius Rosenwald (1862-1932), president of Sears, Roebuck and Company from 1908 to 1924 and one of America's great philanthropists. Although Rosenwald was involved in many philanthropic activities, he is best known to us in Prince George's County as the creator of the Julius Rosenwald Fund, which promoted and supported the construction of schools for African-American children during the period between the two World Wars.

These Rosenwald Schools have attracted a great deal of interest since 2002, when the National Trust for Historic Preservation listed them, as a class of buildings, in that year's list of the Eleven Most Endangered Buildings.

One of Rosenwald's favorite causes was the education of African-American children. Encouraged by Booker T. Washington, he established the Julius Rosenwald Fund in 1917, specifically aimed at the construction of school buildings. From that time until Rosenwald's death in 1932, the Rosenwald Fund contributed more than \$4 million to the building of approximately 5,000 new schools for black children (as well as additional shop buildings and teachers' homes) in 15 southern states.

The fund itself provided only seed money for school construction; the majority of the cost came from public taxation, and each local black community was required to match the contribu-

tion of the fund in either cash or in-kind contributions such as lumber or labor, highlighting Rosenwald's determination that the community should be fully invested in the effort. The Rosenwald Fund did much to improve black schools, offering architectural plans that were state-of-the-art for the time period and providing incentives to local African-American communities that invariably led to further improvements. In the state of Maryland between 1918 and 1932, 156 schoolhouses were constructed in 20 counties.

The school buildings in Maryland ranged from small one-room schoolhouses to a 15-classroom high school. Fifty-three (over one-third) of the 156 schools survive – a percentage of survival significantly higher than in the other states where the schools were built. In Prince George's County, 27 schools were built with Rosenwald Fund support, and several of the survivors are located near Greenbelt – in the communities of Lincoln (Lanham), Collington (Bowie) and Lakeland (College Park).

Theatre management is presently working on scheduling special discussions in conjunction with specific showtimes of the film. Check the website at greenbelttheatre.org.

Susan Pearl is a historian with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.



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Corner Lot - Large Floorplan GHI with ADDITIONAL bedrooms on main level. Separate living room. Large fenced back and side yard. Walk to R. Center!

GHI 2 Bedroom Townhome - Ceramic tiled bathroom floor & tub area, double sink in kitchen. Fenced front & back yds. Adjacent to protected woodlands.

Enormous Corner Lot - 3 Br, 1 1/2 Ba. Townhome with attached cinderblock shed. Large sunroom with glass doors. Steps away from Roos. Center.

3 BR Brick End Unit - Completely remodeled 1st flr. Hardwood flooring on main level. Modern kitchen, rear screened porch. Amazing yard!

Block Townhome - Addition - Remodeled 1st flr. 3 bds, 2.5 baths, granite ctrs, d/w. Cherry wood flrs, refinished yds, 1st flr. addition used as den/bedroom.

Block Townhome - 2 bedroom townhome with large screened porch. Modern kitchen. Just a short walk to Roosevelt Center. Priced to sell at \$147,000.

Remodeled Townhome - 2 BR GHI home with French doors opening onto brick patio. Landscaped backyard with shed. Upgraded lighting & more.

Brick Townhome - Corner Lot - Fireplace, sunroom, hardwood flooring, newly tiled bath, energy sav. appliances, fresh paint. Nice!

Corner Lot - 2 br GHI frame townhome with large fenced yard. Remodeled throughout with modern kitchen and bath. Refinished hardwood floors.

SOLD

UNDER CONTRACT

SOLD

Your Greenbelt Specialists
In Roosevelt Center

Letters continued



PHOTO BY WILLIS WITTER

Stilt grass beginning to climb Blueberry Hill.

to persuade council to lift its ban on invasive management by spring.

Last week I joined the Chears' "Weed Warriors" in picking invasives in Buddy Attick Park. If only this group of high-school students had been allowed to work in the preserve throughout the summer, our woods would be in much better shape. My hope is that the city will at some point allow Chears to extend its forest stewardship efforts into the preserve. Other groups of properly supervised volunteers should likewise be allowed to participate in a rational plan to protect the preserve.

Without recommendations from the FPAB, however, council refuses to act. At the August 10 council meeting, members said they had not even seen the AMT or ESA bids. They declined my "outside the box" request to publish both bids on the city Web site, so that citizens could read, study and comment on both proposals.

I was told that the FPAB and city staff must first make a recommendation before council members will consider the two proposals.

For years, the FPAB has been divided into two factions, which can best be described as follows:

One faction seeks limited management intervention to protect the preserve from surrounding development. This faction is willing to initiate actions that are permitted in both the Forest Preserve Management and Maintenance Guidelines and the City Code.

At the risk of oversimplification, I characterize the opposing faction with the phrase, "let nature take its course." It views doing nothing as the only viable management option.

In fairness, both factions share a common concern over the future of the preserve. However, those seeking to block all human intervention – even the most limited steps – threaten to turn the forest floor into a blanket of stilt grass, English ivy and other common invasives that have penetrated the preserve. Unless the city changes course, invasives will soon destroy the natural character of the woods.

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The guidelines and the City Code clearly call for preservation of the preserve in its natural state. Both documents allow and even encourage limited management activities.

To quote from the City Code, the Forest Preserve was created, "In order to protect, manage, and administer certain designated areas for the present and future use and enjoyment of the citizens of Greenbelt by protecting them from the impacts of a growing population, expanding growth, and growing mechanization, thus preserving these lands as an enduring natural resource."

I consider this a promise. Now, I ask both FPAB and council honor this promise.

Willis Witter, FPAB member

Adhere to Guidelines

I read Donna Almquist's ad in the August 6 issue of the News Review. I appreciated the issues she raised and I agreed with her conclusions. The current Forest Preserve Guidelines should be adhered to, especially in light of the fact there is already enough green space in and near Greenbelt in which people can walk, camp and pursue other recreational activities. A biologist or ecologist – not a forester – should evaluate the health of the preserve and the possible threat posed by invasive species. The Forest Preserve is unique and therefore irreplaceable.

It provides a sanctuary for wildlife and should be preserved as an oasis for future generations.

Susan L. Smithers

Correction

I regret that I gave some incorrect and outdated information for last week's News Review Article, Green Team Volunteers Strive For Zero Waste at Festival. "Think taxes should be used for something other than trash? The less money spent on trash collection, the more the city can use those savings for other programs and activities." In reality, it is fees, not taxes, which cover most of the cost of trash and recycling pickup.

In addition, the statement that Greenbelt "actually gets money back from recyclables" is no longer correct. Greenbelt is currently charged a tipping fee of \$56 per ton of landfill waste, as well as a tipping fee of \$25 per ton of recyclables. Although the city does not receive direct monetary returns by recycling, it reduces more than half the cost of the tipping fee when compared to landfill waste, and it is a much better option for the planet and sustainability of future generations.

Jane Young

No More Quick Fixes!

Over 10 years ago (2002) a campaign was conducted in Greenbelt to clear invasive vegetation from acres of woods. It developed into divisive, condescending, nonproductive insults; shaming those who disagreed with this experiment and hostile relationships that continue today. Why? Under threat of losing tax credits that were qualified under Maryland's FCMA (Forest Conservation Management Agreement), hasty decisions preempted sound judgement. And we have paid the price for lack of transparency since.

Fast forward 13 years to 2015: this same woods (known as Parcel V along the valley stream at the Hillside Road underpass), is in even worse condition with an active management plan in place, enforced by various foresters, with even more invasives thriving and spreading. Drawing from observations over these many years, along with others, I unquestioning support those who are asking that another approach be taken for the Forest Preserve, not in the name of growing timber on land (forestry), but in the direction of ecological sustainability (ecosystem services). Why do we need a plan that serves to "improve" property for either the sale of timber or property? And, because it makes no sense to hire contractors or consultants who will duplicate the theory and practice of land management goals that are counterproductive and wasteful, I can't imagine anyone agreeing to buy



Cartoon by Jean Newcomb

into yet another such costly plan that we don't need or even want!

The main reason many don't agree with state approved management strategies is that they often lead to reliance on non-specific spraying of toxic chemicals across state managed forests for control of invasive plants.

It is well documented that herbicides can kill or damage other non-target life forms; including humans, pets, pollinators and wildlife (but are legally marketed as created for solving very specific problem pests). I found these hidden realities alarming. The truth is: when we read the categories about what to use for a pest problem, the information actually means a chemical is mostly

used for a certain problem (but works elsewhere, as well).

If pressured into conformance with the state administered FCMA, it won't be long before there will again be heavy reliance on volunteers to buy hundreds, maybe thousands of plants themselves, dig them in and maintain them. This might work for a half acre plot, but across 225 acres, it would take another city department or even an army.

The plan adopted can be a process across time... not short term... not one that decimates the entire forest understory every decade or more (as approved through forestry plans now).

Jean Newcomb

A Blues Sampler Saturday At the New Deal Café

by Leeann Irwin



Max Oches and Neil Harpe

This Saturday night, August 22, the New Deal Café will be rocking with the blues. For the first time playing together at the New Deal Café, Max Oches and Neil Harpe will be opening the special night of A Blues Sampler. They will be playing country blues, especially Delta and Piedmont styles, on various vintage and mostly acoustic guitars. Living in Anne Arundel County, Oches and Harpe perform together, solo, and with others in the region. Their enthusiasm

for the blues has taken them to Mississippi to participate in an event commemorating the legendary Mississippi John Hurt.

Harpe has been playing the guitar since he was 12 years old when he was first inspired by Elvis Presley. He performs regularly at regional festivals, including the Washington Folk Festival, Takoma Park Folk Festival and D.C. Blues Festival. Harpe recently released a solo CD of all new material and has released two albums of blues and "hokum" ragtime duets with two other artists.

In 1967 Max Oches was on the influential Takoma LP "Contemporary Guitar Spring '67" as a key figure in the reinvention of the steel-string guitar. Oches ran the 333Coffeehouse in Annapolis for many years and has

released several albums, including one with Harpe. He has been a pioneer in opening up old blues and country tunes to enthusiastic audiences with his string picking, improvisational freedom and warm vocals.

Come listen to some fast-paced finger-picking blues at the New Deal Café. The concert begins at 8:30 p.m. Rounding out the evening of blues are Melvin Caldwell telling stories and playing the music of B.B. King. Carly Harvey with Kiss and Ride will end the evening with songs and music fusion of bluegrass, folk, blues and soul. The evening is a precursor to the annual all-day Blues Festival in the Roosevelt Center on September 19. This free concert is sponsored by the Friends of New Deal Café Arts, with support from the City of Greenbelt. There is no cover charge but reservations are suggested. For more information, go to newdealcafe.com.